

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****Patent and Trademark Office**

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/075, 902	05/11/98	KANDA	Y 64.105-021

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PMC1/0427

EXAMINER

VU, S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3624	

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DATE MAILED: 04/27/99

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No. 09/075,902	Applicant(s) Kanda et al
Examiner Stephen Vu	Group Art Unit 3624

Responsive to communication(s) filed on May 11, 1998

This action is **FINAL**.

Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.

Claim(s) 6 and 7 is/are objected to.

Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is approved disapproved.

The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

All Some* None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

received.

received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

Interview Summary, PTO-413

Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d). The certified copy has been filed in parent Application No. 2, filed on 5/11/98.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sovis.

Sovis teaches a seat sliding apparatus, as illustrated in Figures 1-7, comprising a lower rail(50), an upper rail(34) slidably received on the lower rail, a memory mechanism section, a lock plate, and a walk-in mechanism section, wherein the memory mechanism is assembled to at least one substrate.

With claim 2, the memory mechanism section comprises an operation lever(76) rotatably mounted on an axis fixing pin and fixed to at least one substrate, a memory bracket holding the lock plate in an unlocked position. The memory bracket is rotatably mounted on an axis fixing pin and fixed to at least one substrate adjacent a free end of the operation lever. A memory holding

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pin is arranged to contact a portion of the free end of the operation lever and extend through the memory bracket. The memory holding pin extends through a slide hole provided in the substrate through a slide hole provided in the memory bracket. The united memory mechanism section is mounted and fixed to the upper rail by the axis fixing pin of the operation lever and the axis fixing pin of the memory bracket.

With claim 3, the axis fixing pin of the operation lever includes a collar section.

With claim 4, the axis fixing pin of the memory bracket has a collar section.

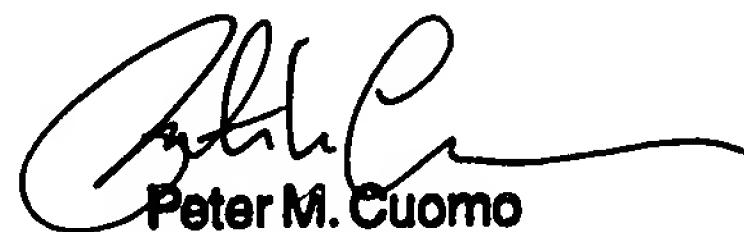
As for claim 5, the slide hole in at least one substrate is oriented in the direction of a line connecting the axis fixing pin of the operation lever to the axis fixing pin of the memory bracket, and the slide hole in the memory bracket is oriented on a slant relative to the line so that the memory holding pin can be moved to an unlocked side of the slide hole.

4. Claims 6-7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Couasnon et al, Hughes, Chang, Ainsworth et al, and Dove et al are cited as showing similar types of seat sliding apparatus.

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6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Stephen Vu, whose telephone number is (703) 308-1378.



Peter M. Cuomo
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 3600

Stephen Vu
Patent Examiner
April 21, 1999